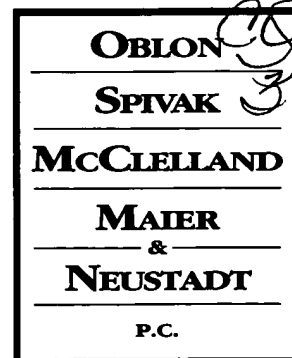


DOCKET NO. 1247-0849-6VF

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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Re: U.S. Application 291
Serial No: 09/668,921
Filed: September 25, 2000
Group: 1774
Inventor: Jean-Paul DEBALME, et al.
For: PROCESS FOR
MANUFACTURING A
COMPOSITE TAPE FORMED FROM
REINFORCING FIBRES AND FIBRES OF A
THERMOPLASTIC ORGANIC MATERIAL

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Our check in the amount of **\$0.00** is attached covering any required fees. In the event that any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
Jean-Paul DEBALME, et al. : EXAMINER: FERGUSON, L.
SERIAL NO: 09/668,291 :
FILED: September 25, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1774
FOR: PROCESS FOR :
MANUFACTURING A
COMPOSITE TAPE FORMED
FROM REINFORCING FIBRES
AND FIBRES OF A
THERMOPLASTIC ORGANIC
MATERIAL

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the restriction requirement dated February 7, 2002, the Applicants elect with traverse the invention of Group I, corresponding to Claims 1-6.

The Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement based upon MPEP § 803, which states:

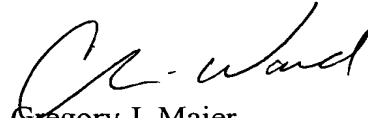
... If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding restriction requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single invention be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1-19 be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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